

HAMPTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Medical Officer's Annual Report.

HAMPTON, MIDDLESEX,

15th February, 1910.

GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st December, 1909.

PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The District—which comprises 2,036 acres—is of an open character; and is situated on a subsoil of gravel.

The District is fortunate in the possession of ample open spaces; a large portion of Bushy Park being included in the area, and several other recreation grounds are under the control of the Council, while the River Thames flows along the whole of the southern boundary.

I have estimated the population of the District to be 10,000, calculated to the middle of the year; and the chief occupations of the inhabitants are mainly outdoor ones.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births and Birth Rate.—The total number of births registered during the year was 217—106 males and 111 females—of whom one only was illegitimate.

This is equal to a birth rate of 21.7 per thousand of the estimated population, and is practically the same as the previous year.

Deaths and Death Rate.—The total number of deaths registered from all causes during the year was 96.

This number includes three non-residents, the particulars of whose deaths were forwarded to the Medical Officers of Health in whose districts they had previously resided; four residents who died at the Union Infirmary at Kingston; two whose deaths occurred in St. George's Hospital; and three others who died at other places outside the District.

After correcting these returns by deducting the deaths of the three non-residents, and adding the deaths of those residents who died at places outside the District, this brings the net total number of deaths of persons belonging to the District to 93—56 males and 37 females—the causes of whose deaths, together with the ages at death, are shown in the tabular statement below.

I also append a table showing the distribution of these deaths among males and females, with the age periods at death.

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.						
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Measles	4	2	1	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis	4	2	1	—	—	—	1
Phthisis	3	—	—	—	1	2	—
Other Tubercular Diseases	2	—	1	1	—	—	—
Cancer	10	—	—	—	—	6	4
Bronchitis	14	2	1	—	—	2	9
Pneumonia	5	1	2	—	—	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	3	—	—	—	—	1	2
Diseases of Parturition	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
Heart Diseases	7	—	—	—	—	2	5
Suicides	2	—	—	—	1	—	1
All other causes	36	8	2	1	—	8	17
Totals	93	16	8	3	3	23	40

Distribution of Deaths among Males and Females.

Sex.	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Males	56	10	6	2	1	14	23
Females	37	6	2	1	2	9	17
Totals	93	16	8	3	3	23	40

Taking the number of deaths of persons belonging to the District at 93, as set out in the foregoing tables, this gives a death rate of 9.3 per thousand of the estimated population, a decrease of 0.4 per thousand compared with 1908, and is the lowest death rate recorded since the formation of the Urban District in 1891.

The average death rate for the previous 10 years is 11.5 per thousand.

Forty-nine of these deaths were of persons 60 years of age and upwards, of whom 18 were between 60 and 70; 17 between 70 and 80; 13 between 80 and 90; and 1 aged 90.

Four deaths were the subjects of Inquests by the Coroner during the year, and the verdicts of the Juries were as follows:—Suicides, 2; Drowning, 1; Natural Causes, 1.

The only deaths reported as being due to the principal Zymotic diseases were four from Measles and one from Whooping Cough.

This is equal to a rate of 0.5 per thousand of the population—a slight decrease from the rate in the previous year.

Infantile Mortality.—Sixteen deaths of infants under one year of age were registered during the year from the following causes, viz.:—Measles, 2; Whooping Cough, 1; Enteritis, 2; Congenital defects, 2; Debility, 3; Convulsions, 2; Bronchitis, 2; Pneumonia, 1; Other cause, 1.

This is equal to a mortality rate of 73.7 per thousand births, an improvement of nearly 4 per thousand births compared with 1908, and is the lowest infantile mortality rate recorded for this District.

The Notification of Births Act of 1907 has not been adopted.

Infectious Diseases.—I append a tabular statement showing the notifications received during the year under the provisions of the Infectious Diseases (Notification) Acts, with the age periods of the patients:—

Disease.	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.
Scarlet Fever... ..	25	1	1	20	2	1	—
Diphtheria	19	—	5	13	1	—	—
Erysipelas	9	—	—	1	2	3	3
Totals	53	1	6	34	5	4	3

Forty of these patients—22 Scarlet Fever and 18 Diphtheria—were treated at the Isolation Hospital; and, in addition, two patients who were suspected to be suffering from Diphtheria were removed to the Hospital, but were discharged after a few days' detention.

Scarlet Fever.—The disease was very mild in type.

Twelve of these cases occurred at the Female Orphan Home, and the remaining cases were spread over the greater part of the year.

One child was found at an Infant School in the desquamatory stage and was removed to her home at once by the Inspector.

Measles.—There were two outbreaks of this disease during the year among scholars attending the Infant Schools; at Hampton Hill in February and at Hampton in June.

With a view to preventing the spread of the disease, I advised the Council to close the School affected on each occasion for a period of three weeks, and the Schools were disinfected by the Inspector during the time they were closed.

Four deaths occurred from this disease.

Diphtheria.—Four of the cases notified occurred in one house and involved a number of contacts who were at School, owing to the patients having been at School practically until notification.

I communicated with the County Medical Officer of Health, and with him and the School Medical Officer, examined the whole of the contacts at the Schools; and swabs were taken fortunately with negative results.

Fortunately there was no spread from these cases.

With a view to the early detection of cases of this disease, the Council are prepared to pay for the bacteriological examination of swabs from patients who are not in a position to meet the expense of such examination, so as to obtain a definite diagnosis at the earliest moment.

There has been no notification of either Enteric Fever or Puerperal Fever.

Phthisis.—There is no system of notification—either voluntary or compulsory—in force for cases of this disease in the District, beyond that provided for poor persons by the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations of 1908.

I am pleased to report a decrease in the number of deaths from this disease, three only having occurred in the year, against 11 in 1908.

Three patients were certified under the Regulations mentioned above.

The premises occupied by the patients were inspected and advice given respecting the measures to be taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

Two of the patients were removed to Hospital for treatment and returned in improved health, and the remaining one has moved from the District.

The Council are prepared to provide treatment at a Sanatorium for persons in the early stages of the disease, providing the patients are unable to pay the cost themselves, and when, in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health, such treatment is likely to prove beneficial.

Two patients have been sent to the Kelling Sanatorium, Norfolk, by the Council during the year under this arrangement.

One was discharged in an improved condition, and the other was under treatment there at the close of the year.

The Council undertake to have all rooms occupied by persons suffering from Tubercular disease in any form disinfected free of cost, upon receipt of a request from the Medical Practitioner in attendance on the patient.

Thirteen rooms so occupied have been disinfected by the Inspector, and the rooms are also stripped and cleansed.

Disinfection.—All rooms occupied by persons suffering from infectious disease are disinfected with Formalin immediately after the removal or recovery of the patient, and the rooms are stripped and cleansed when necessary.

Bedding and clothing are disinfected in a steam disinfector at the Isolation Hospital.

This work is carried out by the Council's Officers free of cost.

Rooms which have been occupied by persons suffering from Cancer are also disinfected by the Inspector, when requested to do so by the doctor in attendance.

Isolation Hospital.—This building was erected in 1904, and stands in a site of some seven acres abutting on the Uxbridge Road, Hampton Hill.

The accommodation consists of a pavilion of four wards, with kitchens, bathrooms, and lavatories; an administrative block; porter's lodge; laundry and disinfecting chamber; coach-house and mortuary.

This might with advantage be supplemented by the addition of a small ward or wards to be used for the purpose of observation of cases which were not quite definite.

The establishment is in charge of a Medical Superintendent, with a staff of two Trained Nurses, two Maids, and a Porter, and is connected to the residence of the Medical Superintendent, the Council's Offices, and the Fire Brigade by telephone.

An ambulance with two beds is provided for the removal of patients.

I was able to make arrangements with the Croydon and Wimbledon Joint Hospital Board in 1905 for the reception of cases of Smallpox from this District into their Hospital at Cheam.

This arrangement was confirmed by the Council and is still in force.

Schools.—These have been constantly under observation and are kept in good repair.

A number of the sanitary conveniences at the Council School in Percy Road have been replaced by apparatus of a stronger type.

The Grammar School has been enlarged, and the sanitary arrangements have been remodelled and brought up to date by the provision of entirely new sanitary accommodation.

The medical inspection of the children in attendance at the Public Elementary Schools is conducted by Officers especially appointed for that purpose by the County Education Committee.

In order to prevent the spread of infectious disease among the scholars, a system of notification is in force, whereby the Head of the School is informed of any case of notifiable disease among the scholars; and notices are also served when there are contacts attending school excluding the particular scholars for a period, and the School Medical Officer is notified.

The Head Teachers of the various Schools also kindly co-operate by informing me of any abnormal absence through illness.

Dwelling-houses.—In my opinion the accommodation provided is quite sufficient for the present needs of the District.

The houses erected by the Council under the provisions of the Housing of the Working Classes Act a few years ago have been fully occupied.

A large number of houses have been inspected during the year, including house-to-house inspections, and a considerable number of nuisances arising from sanitary defects, dampness, want of cleanliness, etc., have been remedied.

A further number have been entirely re-drained and connected to the public sewer, and all new houses are connected at the time of erection.

Building operations have not been quite so brisk during the year as in the two previous years.

Plans for 54 new houses were passed by the Council.

The supervision of all new buildings in course of erection is in the hands of the Surveyor to the Council.

One dwelling-house which was in a dilapidated condition has been closed by the owner, and will not be re-occupied.

Milk Supply.—The milk supplied in this District is partly home produced and partly imported from the neighbouring districts.

There are three cowkeepers in the District, who keep an aggregate of 111 milch cows, which are grazed during the greater portion of the year.

The cowsheds, dairies, and milkshops are under periodical inspection by myself and the Inspector of Nuisances, and have been kept in a very fair condition, with the exception of some small defects arising mainly from want of cleanliness, which were promptly remedied upon request.

At the time of writing my last Annual Report a Veterinary Surgeon had been appointed under the provisions of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders for the inspection of cattle, with a view to the detection of Tubercular disease among the herds.

The appointment was determined owing to the Officer having given up practice in the neighbourhood, and his successor has not yet been appointed.

I strongly advise that a further appointment be made as early as possible.

Food Supply.—The various premises in the District where food is prepared for sale—which includes Slaughterhouses and Bakehouses—have been constantly inspected during the year by myself and the Inspector.

There are five Slaughterhouses in the District, and these are kept in a satisfactory condition.

The Inspector holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as an Inspector of Meat and other Foods, and is frequently in attendance during the process of slaughtering.

The carcasses of animals killed for food in the Slaughterhouses in the District are of good quality, and there has been no seizure of Tuberculous meat or organs.

A number of livers affected with fluke disease have been disposed of so as to prevent their use for human food.

Bye-laws for Slaughterhouses have been approved by the Local Government Board, and are now in force in the District.

A trunk of unsound haddocks weighing about 60 lb. was surrendered to the Inspector and destroyed by him.

The administration of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts is carried out by the County Authorities.

Water Supply.—The whole of this District is supplied on the constant service system by the Metropolitan Water Board.

The supply has been well maintained at good pressure throughout the year, and the water is bright and well filtered.

The Board draw a large portion of their supply from the Thames at Hampton and have several large pumping stations here, while a very considerable area is covered by their reservoirs and filter beds.

I have examined two samples of water from private wells during the year, one of which was found to be polluted.

The well was closed, and a supply laid on from the public service.

Factory and Workshop Acts.—The various premises in the District which come under the provision of these Acts, and which include retail Bakehouses, Workshops, and Laundries, have been inspected during the year by myself and the Inspector, and a register is kept of these premises, as required by section 131 of the Act of 1901.

There were 44 premises on the register at the commencement of the year, including two Factory Laundries.

Seven new premises have been added during the year and five have ceased to be used as workshops, leaving 46 premises under inspection, including four factories.

Two notices have been sent to the Factory Inspector reporting failures to keep the Abstract of the Act affixed in the Workshops.

The lists of Outworkers have been obtained from employers giving out work (in each instance the making of wearing apparel), and the names and addresses of the Outworkers have been forwarded to the Local Authorities in whose districts they resided.

Six Bakehouses were limewashed, and seven Workshops were cleansed and whitewashed; one case of overcrowding has been remedied; unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences have been amended in 12 instances; and other nuisances have been abated.

One smoke nuisance from the chimney of a Factory Laundry was remedied after the occupier was written to.

Offensive Trades.—The only business coming under this heading is the Soap Works, and I am satisfied that the business is conducted in a most careful and efficient manner.

Dust Removal and Scavenging.—This work is carried out by the Council's own staff in a very satisfactory manner.

There is a weekly collection of house refuse throughout the District.

A new two-cell Refuse Destructor of the Horsfall type has been erected at the Sewage Works during the year and has been at work for some time.

I am very pleased to report that the old objectionable and insanitary method of disposal by deposit in disused gravel pits is now at an end.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.—The District is divided into areas for the purpose of sewerage, each area discharging its sewage by gravitation into a Stone Pneumatic Ejector, from which it is lifted to the Disposal Works in the Hanworth Road by compressed air.

The sewers are carrying out the work for which they were designed in an efficient manner, and a blocked sewer in this District is a rarity.

Nearly the whole of the properties in the District are now connected with the public sewer; all drains are laid on concrete and are inspected frequently during construction, and tested with water pressure before being covered in and with smoke on completion.

The installation at the Sewage Disposal Works comprises a screening chamber, detritus tanks, a hydrolytic tank, and triple contact beds.

There is also a settling tank between the secondary and tertiary contact beds to arrest the suspended matters from the primary and secondary beds.

The effluent is discharged into the River Thames at the south-eastern boundary of the District.

I have every reason to be perfectly satisfied with the efficient working of the system of sewage disposal during the past 12 months.

SUMMARY.

The general conclusion I have come to is one of satisfaction as to the general healthiness of the District by reason of the following :—(1) The entire absence of Enteric Fever; (2) a marked falling off in the deaths from Phthisis; (3) a still further improvement in the infantile mortality rate; (4) the almost entire absence of Diarrhœa; and (5) the reduced death rate for the population as a whole.

I enclose the Returns for the Local Government Board, the Home Office, the County Council, and a tabular statement of the work carried out by the Inspector of Nuisances.

In concluding this Report, I must again express my sincere thanks and obligations to the Inspector of Nuisances, Mr. A. SHAIL, for his steady assistance and cordial co-operation in carrying out any recommendation I have had to make in the course of my duties as the Medical Officer of Health for this District.

His work has been very onerous, and he performs his duties most efficiently.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WENTWORTH TYNDALE.

*To the Chairman and Members,
Hampton Urban District Council.*

Hampton Urban District Council.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1909.

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Unsound Food :

A trunk of unsound haddocks was surrendered and destroyed.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops :

Number of cowsheds in the District	7
Number of milch cows kept	111
Number of dairies and milkshops in District	6
Number of visits paid	28
Cowsheds cleansed and limewashed	5
Accumulations of manure removed	2
Cattle troughs cleansed	3

Offensive Trades :

Number in District	1
Number of inspections	2
Nuisances found	None

Water Supply and Service :

Houses—Water laid on to	3
New cistern provided	1
Cisterns cleansed and covered	5
Draw-taps placed on mains	2
Samples taken from wells	2
Number found polluted and well closed	1
Flushing cisterns provided to water-closets	6
Flushing cisterns repaired	13

Drainage :

Drains tested, exposed, etc.	14
Number found defective	12
Drains cleared	102
Drains repaired	10
Drains trapped	3
Drains reconstructed	16
Disconnecting traps or chambers inserted	19
New soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed	6
Existing soil pipes or ventilating shafts repaired	13
New stoneware sinks fixed	2
New waste-pipes fixed	5
Waste-pipes repaired	4
Urinals cleansed	7
Waste and rain pipes disconnected from drains	5
Cesspools emptied and abolished	7
New water-closets erected	2
New water-closet apparatus fixed	13
Water-closets repaired	16
Water-closets cleansed	13
Closets supplied with water or supply improved	21

Tents, Vans, &c. :

Number observed during the year	19
Number removed from the District	19

Sundry other Nuisances abated :

Smoke	1
Overcrowding	2
Accumulations of Refuse	13
Animals improperly kept	4

Infectious Diseases and Disinfection :

Number of cases of Scheduled diseases notified	53
Number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified	3
Number of patients removed to the Isolation Hospital	42
Notices sent to School Teachers	40
Number of rooms disinfected	86
Number of rooms stripped and cleansed	43
Number of articles disinfected or destroyed	332

Factory and Workshop Acts, 1901 and 1907 :

Number of workshops and workplaces on Register	27
Number of retail bakehouses on the Register	8
Number of laundries on the Register	7
Number of visits to workshops and workplaces	78
Number of visits to retail bakehouses	32
Number of visits to laundries	29
Number of visits to factories	39
Workshops whitewashed	7
Bakehouses limewashed	6
Water-closets repaired or cleansed	5
Water-closets screened	2
Flushing-tanks repaired	3
New flushing-tank fixed	1
Overcrowding abated	1
Drains cleared	3
Refuse removed	2
Rain-water pipe repaired	1
Defective urinal removed	1
Outworkers' lists received	2
Names of outworkers forwarded to other Authorities... ..	4
Notices sent to Factory Inspector	2
Notices received from Factory Inspector	3

In concluding this Report, I beg to tender my sincere thanks to the Council for their continued confidence and for their hearty support in all matters which I have reported to them in the course of my duties during the year.

I also wish to thank my colleagues on the Council's staff for their willing assistance at all times.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ALBERT SHAIL,

A.R.San.I.

PUBLIC OFFICES,

HAMPTON, MIDDLESEX,

January, 1910.

Hampton Urban District Council.

Annual Report

OF THE

Inspector of Nuisances

FOR THE YEAR 1909.